

U.S. Census Bureau News

U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, DC 20230

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
10:00 A.M. EDT FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2017

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Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products February 2017

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary February steel imports were \$1.9 billion (2.4 million metric tons) compared to the preliminary January totals of \$2.0 billion (2.5 million metric tons).

The February change in steel imports based on metric tonnage reflected decreases primarily in reinforcing bars; hot dipped galvanized sheets and strip; and hot rolled sheets. Increases occurred in blooms, billets and slabs. Decreases occurred primarily with Turkey, Korea, and Canada. Increases occurred primarily with Brazil, Russia, and Australia.

The year to date final statistics through January 2017 showed steel imports of 2.6 million metric tons compared with 2.4 million metric tons through January 2016. The largest commodity increases occurred primarily in hot dipped galvanized sheets and strip; oil country goods; and cold rolled sheets. Decreases occurred primarily in hot rolled sheets, plates in coils, and line pipe. The largest country increases occurred primarily with Korea, Russia, and Turkey. Decreases occurred primarily with Australia, Brazil, and Germany.

Notes:

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.

Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details, visit our web site at www.census.gov/trade. On the website, you can access product by country and country by product tables.

The next release is April 25, 2017.